

ANNUAL REPORT

1999/2000

2000/2001



April 1, 1999 - March 31, 2001
Activities of the
Prince Edward Island
Advisory Council on the Status of Women



"Her Name Is..."

Watercolour and ink illustration, 2' x 3'
Theme: Elder Women and their valuable
contribution throughout history.

Dale McNevin lives in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. She is a self-taught artist and illustrator who has two years of Commercial Design instruction at Holland College. Her illustrations have appeared in the Guardian newspaper, Common Ground, and Islandside magazines and other publications such as the Prince Edward Island Music Series, Vol 1 & 11, and David Weale's PEI Christmas Reader. McNevin's work has also appeared on CBC's Arts and Entertainment and On The Road Again, and has been exhibited in the Dunes Gallery.

a.k.a. Angelica Rose

With the dawn
I arose to do my work in this life.
So much time has passed
since I've begun.
My heart lost not a beat in the rhythm of living,
even though the dark days
when my spirit was hunted down
to be made prisoner,
even in my own body.
Yet, my spirit lived
and journeyed through my eyes,
past the pain,
to thrive in the realm of dream.

In all this time
I am not gone.
I am still here
with my songs of
power and loss
sorrow and gain
biting down hard
upon a changing wind
that carries my voice
over walls and wells.

Even if my teeth are gone
I will open my mouth
and sing of all I know.
In cold comfort
I will enter the Darkness
on my journey to the Light,
And another toothless face
will pick up our song
as she travels
through her Darkness
toward the cold comfort
of her Light.
I am still here
and my name is...

Margie Carmichael 1997

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Advisory Council on the
Status of Women

PO Box 2000
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December 2001

Honourable Pat Mella
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women
PO Box 2000
Charlottetown, PEI C1A 7N8

Dear Honourable Pat Mella,

I am pleased to present you with the 1999/2000 and the 2000/2001 Annual Report of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women

The Annual Report contains a summary of Council's activities, publications, highlights of recommendations and audited financial statements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Roy".

Patricia Roy
Chairperson

Chairperson's Message

Mission: The PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women is dedicated to equality and supports women's full and active participation in social, legal, cultural, economic, political, and spiritual spheres of life.

"As I complete my five year term on the Advisory Council, I am convinced of the Council's ability to serve as an important institution dedicated to the advancement of the women of this province, and beyond."

Sharon O'Brien - Chairperson (October 1996 - April 2000)

Sharon O'Brien served as a Council member since February 1995 and as Council Chairperson since October 1996. As an Aboriginal woman, Sharon has worked extensively on issues that affect the Aboriginal community. She served as Councillor in the community of Cornwall from 1991 to 1995. Sharon is currently Coordinator of the Mi'Kmaq Family Resource Centre in Charlottetown. She is also a tutor with Queens County Laubach Literacy, and is involved with many other community projects. Sharon lives in Cornwall with her husband and three children.

Council term: February 16, 1995 to April 4, 2000.



Patricia Roy - Chairperson (April 5, 2000 ~ present)

Patricia has served as a Council member since January 1998. She is a freelance writer and journalist with the Journal Pioneer in Summerside and the mother of five children. Patricia is bilingual and has worked as a nurse, homemaker, farmer, entrepreneur, and artisan before becoming a journalist. She serves on the Executive of l'Association des Acadiennes et Francophones de l'I.-P.-E and is an executive member of the Summerside Y's Service Club. Patricia is also currently serving as a committee member of the East Prince Committee on Family Violence and the PEI Women's Coalition, a family legal aid justice committee. She resides in Summerside.

Council term: January 27, 1998 - January 27, 2003.



The Advisory Council on the Status of Women has a vision: A society which provides respect and equality of opportunity for all people regardless of gender, race, religion, wealth or ability. Specifically, Council endeavors to improve public attitudes and supports to women in all spheres of life in Prince Edward Island; to support community organizations and government systems to work for equality for all women; to listen to women and validate their experience in understanding issues and promoting initiatives to improve the status of women and their families; and to advise and support the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women and other elected representatives to improve the status of women in PEI. This vision inspires the work that we do.

While we can celebrate the fact that many girls and women of PEI do not experience barriers to their full and active participation in Island society, equality concerns do exist for others and it is for them that we work towards our mandate. As a community agency dedicated to equality, we know that we must be vigilant, stretch ourselves and build upon any "successes" that we have been part of.

The Advisory Council has the belief that women's contributions to social, political, legal, cultural and economic life must be valued and celebrated. We work towards this belief in a number of ways. The Advisory Council sponsors annual events that keep women's contributions and issues in the public view, such as the International Women's Day Equality Recognition Awards and the Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence. Through regular meetings with government, participation on committees and working groups, as well as our Activities Update newsletter, we strive to maintain a positive profile for women's equality. The Council continues to work at increasing the awareness of how gender analysis impacts on programs, policies and legislation.

We are fortunate to have some of the voices of Island women represented through our Council members, who join us from across PEI. They bring a wealth of experience and skills and represent the Council proudly in their communities. We have chosen to profile these women in this report. They are your community's link to the Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

This Annual Report reflects a summary of events and activities of the Council. Please do not hesitate to contact us at the Council office at any time for more detailed information.

Sincerely, 

About the Council

The Advisory Council began in 1975 as an Order-In-Council. In 1988 the Council received full legislative standing with the *PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women Act*.

The PEI ACSW Act establishes the size of the Council; the number of Council meetings (currently four meetings per year); the reporting structure between the Chairperson and Minister Responsible; and, the mandate to monitor status of women issues, advise the provincial government and develop public awareness about issues affecting the status of women.

The Advisory Council:

- Serves as a community arm to the provincial government and acts as a liaison and advisor regarding issues identified by communities and individual women in PEI
- Informs the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women through monthly meetings and regular correspondence about events and issues concerning women's equality
- Conducts research and offers recommendations to government departments, committees, royal commissions, special task forces and community consultations
- Recommends policy programs and legislation which promote equality of opportunity
- Initiates and participates in projects of benefit to Island women with women's groups, committees, and government departments
- Initiates and/or participates in speaking engagements, conferences, media conferences and other public education activities

The Council is an arm's length advisory agency and achieves its mandate through its unique relationship with both government and the community. Over the years, the Council has developed a policy of commitment toward feminist process in conducting its affairs and in problem resolution.

- Responds to enquiries from individuals, organizations and government concerning status of women issues
- Provides leadership that educates and stimulates public awareness about issues identified by community and government regarding status of women, and
- Meets with other provincial/territorial Advisory Councils

The Council is a nine-member volunteer Board. The Chairperson receives honoraria for five days per month and members receive honoraria on Council meeting days.

To promote continuity, Executive Council appoints the Chairperson from existing members. For other appointments, the Council provides the Minister Responsible with the names of Island women who have demonstrated a commitment to women's equality. Executive Council then makes the appointments based on the recommendations of the Minister Responsible.

Council business is directed and determined mainly at council meetings four times per year.

In 1999-2000 the meetings were:

- 63rd meeting - June 1999
- 64th meeting - September 1999
- 65th meeting - January 2000
- 66th meeting - March 2000

In 2000-2001 the meetings were:

- 67th meeting - June 2000
- 68th meeting - October 2000
- 69th meeting - January 2001
- 70th meeting - March 2001

In addition to four full council meetings each year, members of the Executive met by phone and in person.

Members are appointed by the Executive Council and usually represent regional, cultural and ethnic diversity (i.e. youth, lesbian, Aboriginal women, Francophone women, women of colour, disabled women). Council members are appointed for two and three year terms.

Council Members

Members who finished their terms in 1999 - 2001

Audrey Currie - Vice Chairperson

Audrey was appointed Vice Chairperson in the summer of 1996. She is a teacher and psychometrician who has taught special and regular classes at elementary, secondary and post-secondary levels in English and French. She is a member of the PEI Teachers' Federation, the Association of Special Education Teachers, and the PEI Language Arts Teachers' Association. She has served on the Kings County Arts Council, Association of Learning Disabilities, and as a 4-H Leader. She lives with her family in Orwell Cove.

Council term: February 16, 1995 - February 16, 2000.



Marguerite Arsenault - Treasurer

Marguerite is Coordinator of the Southern Kings Community Resource Centre. An active member of her Eastern Kings community she worked with Heart Health PEI and volunteered with the Eastern Kings Interagency Committee on Family Violence Prevention and the Eastern Kings Active Living Community. She lives in Souris with her family.

Council term: September 23, 1996 - September 23, 1999.



Rosemary Faulkner - Member



Rosemary is program director for family support and self-help with the Canadian Mental Health Association where she supports and connects individuals and families dealing with physical and mental illness and stressful life situations. She also manages the PEI Self-Help Clearinghouse. She presently chairs the advisory panel for the Atlantic Breast Cancer Information Project, facilitates the Breast Cancer Survivor Network and is involved with the PEI Pottery Studio. She lives with her family in Stratford.

Council term: January 27, 1998 - March 1, 2001.

Resigned: April 2000

Mary Nicholson - Member



Mary is a Charlottetown lawyer, active in the legal community. She has served on a number of volunteer boards including: Queen's County Committee of the Transition House Association, Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF), Charlottetown Area Housing Association, and Camp Gencheff. She has chaired the PEI Mental Health Review Board.

Council term: September 23, 1996 - September 23, 1999.

Council Members

Current Council Members

Inge Blackett - Vice Chairperson (April 5, 2000 - present)

Inge is an experienced chef and food services manager, trained in culinary arts and management, as well as hospital food management.. She was an active community member in Souris serving in many volunteer capacities at the Souris Hospital. She is a dedicated volunteer with the Prince Edward Home, is very active in the Jewish community, and other community groups. Inge resides in Stratford.



Council term: January 27, 1998 - January 27, 2003.

Maxine Ellis - Treasurer

Maxine is a Financial Services Officer/Investment Specialist employed at Central Credit Union Limited in O'Leary. She volunteers with various community organizations including charities, non-profit organizations, sports events and church related activities. Maxine lives in West Cape with her husband and son.



Council term: January 27, 1998 - November 9, 2001.

Darlene Peters - Member

Darlene lives and works in Souris where she partners with her husband in the fishing business. As a mother of three children, Darlene has been active in a number of community and volunteer organizations including Eastern Kings Tourism, the I.W.K./Grace Telethon and Eastern Venture/Community Futures.



Council term: November 9, 1999 - November 9, 2002.

Valerie Smallman - Member



Valerie is coordinator of West Prince Transition and Support Service for women and their children who are experiencing difficulties in their relationships due to abuse. She has been a member of Partners for Prevention, Provincial Child Sexual Abuse Committees, and the West Prince Community Development Corporation. She is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the West Prince Rainbow Residence, which provides safe and supportive housing for women and their children who can no longer stay in their own homes due to abuse. She is an active community member with groups such as KIDS West prenatal nutrition program and the Provincial Crime Prevention Committee.

Council term: September 29, 1998 - September 29, 2001.

Jackie MacNeill Doiron - Member



A graduate of UPEI, Jackie works at the Summerside Taxation Centre and commutes daily from her home in Charlottetown. As an active volunteer fund raiser for projects such as the Soggy Reid Telethon and the Charlottetown and area food drive, Jackie is strongly committed to her community.

Council term: November 9, 1999 - November 9, 2002.

Joan Savage - Member



Joan is the Nurse Manager of Public Health Nursing with the East Prince Health Authority at the Summerside Health Centre. Joan has been presenting health information to women across the Island for over 20 years through Holland College, East Prince Women's Information Centre and the public. She is also actively involved in the Well Women's Health Coalition that provides a province wide campaign for the prevention of breast and cervical cancer. She lives with her family in Summerside.

Council term: April 4, 2000 - April 4, 2003.

Margaret Koren - Member

Margaret is a graduate of the University of New Brunswick Law School, Class of 1999 and was called to the Bar in July 2000. She is currently employed with the Provincial Department of Agriculture. Margaret has served on the board of Carousel Family Resource Centre in Montague and participated in the original CAPC meetings to establish Family Resource Centres on PEI. As a single mother of two children, Margaret has also volunteered with Anderson House, the PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada, and the PEI Law Society. Margaret lives with her family in Belle River.

Council term: October 10, 2000 - October 10, 2003.



Wendy MacLaren - Member

Wendy is a Certified Early Childhood Educator and works with the Morell Early Childhood Development Centre. She has an extensive background working with youth as a teacher assistant, substitute teacher, special needs assistant, and workshop facilitator before receiving her certification in early childhood education. Active in her community, Wendy has volunteered with Girl Guides, minor sports, home & school and 4-H. Wendy lives in Morell with her family.

Council term: October 10, 2000 - October 10, 2003.



Council Staff

In 1999-2000, Council had two full-time and one part-time staff. In 2000-2001, Council had one full-time and three part-time staff.



Director, Lisa Murphy joined Council in May 1990. As of May 2000, Lisa is on a one-year leave of absence from the Advisory Council.



Communications Coordinator, Heidi Rankin joined the staff in April 1997. Heidi is serving as Director in Lisa's absence.



Administrative Assistant, Becky Tramley works part-time and joined the Council in October 1986.

Appreciation Award

In 1999, Becky Tramley was presented with an award from the Advisory Council in recognition of her commitment and support as a staff person for the previous 13 years. Lisa Murphy spoke to the award, followed by words of acknowledgment and presentation by Minister Pat Mella.

Researcher/Policy Analyst, Patricia MacAulay joined the staff in November 2000 and works part-time.



Communications Coordinator, Cheryl J. Dalziel joined the staff in November 2000 and works part-time.



Betty Belaire works on a contract basis at the Council as a part-time resource support.

Sandy Kowalik worked on a contract basis at the Council as project support and coordination.

Council Business

Members and staff carry out the work of Council in several ways:

- **Information Service**
 - **Annual Events**
 - **Networking**
 - **Publications and Research**
 - **Consultation and Media**
 - **Recommendations and Submissions to Government**
 - **Public Speaking**
 - **Committees, and**
 - **Regular Meetings with the Minister**
-

Council Business - *Information Service*

The Advisory Council responds to enquiries from individuals and groups, government, and the media on a range of questions and issues. The enquiries range from requests for documented or statistical information, to referrals, to crisis calls, and calls for advocacy, for example, on legal rights. People make enquiries in person, through telephone, email or by letter.

Requests for information in crisis or advocacy situations are often complex calls from women who have tried to get information or service without success. Sometimes information and referral is enough to respond to the request, but frequently callers need additional support or intervener help to satisfy their request.

Council Business - Annual Events

The Council sponsors a number of annual events that keep women's contributions and issues in the public view.

International Women's Day (IWD) 2000 EQUALITY Recognition Awards: Council hosted the 8th Annual IWD Awards on March 8, 2000. The Awards presentation was held at the Kier Gallery in Charlottetown.

The highlight of the event is the presentation of the awards to women and organizations who have worked to improve the lives of Island women. Recipients of the EQUALITY Recognition Awards for 2000 were:

Individual Award to Donna Lewis for her tireless promotion of the shell fishery and the key role that women play in it, as well as her actions on issues affecting children, and the community that they will inherit.

Group Award to the PEI Rape/Sexual Assault Crisis Centre for providing service and support to thousands of Island women who have experienced the violence of sexual assault and sexual abuse.

Employer Award to the Colonel Gray High School G.I.F.T. Program (Graduation Is For Teen Moms) for its commitment to teen moms and their children by developing and providing a program of support and education especially for teen moms.

Lifetime Achievement Award to Regena Russell, who uses her legal knowledge and interpersonal skills to focus on business, political, and legal issues in pursuit of the advancement of women in an era of social and economic change.

Annual Events:

- **International Women's Day (IWD) EQUALITY Recognition Awards**
 - **Purple Ribbon Campaign**
 - **Bursary to Holland College and University of Prince Edward Island Students**
-

Council Business - Annual Events

International Women's Day (IWD) EQUALITY 2001 Recognition Awards: Council hosted the 9th Annual IWD Awards on March 8, 2001. The Awards presentation was held at the Arts Guild in Charlottetown.

Individual Award to Ellie Reddin for her instrumental role in creating the Island's first victim services program and managing the Victim Services Program for PEI.

Group Award to the Management Development Program for Women at UPEI for providing management training specifically for women that increases their skills and confidence as they assume management and leadership positions in today's workplaces.

Special Recognition: Inclusion Award to Kay Reynolds in recognition of her being a role model and leader in the disability community including the founder of many of disability organizations in PEI.

Lifetime Achievement Award to Anne T. Gillis, CND, for her work with and for women on issues particularly about violence and addictions and their effects on women's lives. Her strong vocal, advocacy, and leadership skills have been cherished by women's groups for decades.

Purple Ribbon Campaign

December 6th is the National Day of Remembrance and Action, which commemorates the murder of 14 female engineering students and workers in Montreal in 1989. The Council's 8th and 9th Purple Ribbon Campaigns distributed thousands of purple ribbons on cards with information and statistics about family violence on PEI. Islanders are encouraged to wear the purple ribbon on or near December 6th to remember all women who are victims of violence. Cards and ribbons were distributed to civil servants, Island women's groups, and also made available at the Montreal Massacre Memorial Service organized by the UPEI Women's Centre. Through the support of the Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention, council staff and volunteers distributed more than 9,000 purple ribbons and cards to Islanders in 1999.

In 2000, for the first time, the cards were translated into French. Council staff and volunteers distributed nearly 10,000 purple ribbons and cards in 2000.

Advisory Council Bursary Recipients

Each year the Council awards bursaries to two women to help them continue their studies. The Advisory Council's 1999 annual bursaries were awarded to Angela Gregory of Holland College and Liz Murnaghan of UPEI. The application deadline is November 15 each year.

The Advisory Council's annual bursaries for 2000 were awarded to Amy Farrell of Holland College and Anne Lane of UPEI.

Council Business - Annual Events

PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women Engineering Bursary for Women is awarded to a woman entering third year engineering at UPEI in recognition and support of women pursuing non-traditional fields. The bursary was established in 1995 by the Government of PEI on the Twentieth Anniversary of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women. The bursary supports the Council's work to encourage young women to choose careers in math and science fields and also pays tribute to the fourteen women engineering students and workers who were murdered at L'Ecole Polytechnique in 1989.

The bursary is processed through the Registrar's office at UPEI and application must be made before October 13. In 1999, this award was given to Heather Turner, a 3rd year engineering student at UPEI. In 2000, the criteria was not met.

Council Business - Projects and Committees

The Advisory Council participates in projects that affect the status of women.

During 1999/2001 the Council participated in seven projects:

- **Impact of Social Policy Reform on Women's Health**
- **PEACEWORKS**
- **Justice Options for Women Who Are Victims of Violence**
- **World March of Women 2000**
- **HIV/AIDS and Pregnancy**
- **First Hand: Arts, Crafts and Culture by PEI Women of the 20th Century**
- **AIDS PEI Homophobia and Community Mobilization**

Impact of Social Policy Reform on Women's Health

The Advisory Council sponsored this participatory research project, funded by the Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women's Health and coordinated by Julie Devon Dodd. Twenty-five single mothers on social assistance in the Queens Region participated in interviews about factors that affect their health and changes in programs or services. A working group of women from community groups, government and UPEI, and Cooper Institute who worked on the research, learned together in understanding how policy affects the health of women. A report was released in May 1999.

PEACEWORKS

The Advisory Council served as a member of the Steering Committee for two projects with PEACEWORKS (Parents, Educators and Communities Effectively Working on Resolutions with Kids and Schools). The first project, *Conflict Resolution in the Schools* focused on reducing violence in our communities and

schools. Workshops were held in each of the six families of schools in the Eastern School District in the fall of 1999. The projects are a partnership between the PEI Eastern School District, CHANCES Family Resource Centre, Transition House Association and the Advisory Council. The second project, *Enhancing Respect for Diversity - a School Model*, had a goal to assist young people to create a model for PEI schools to reduce conflict, racism and other exclusionary practices.

World March of Women 2000

An Island coalition of women and women's groups met to plan events and activities in conjunction with the World March of Women which took place in New York City on October 17, 2000. Thousands of women representing nearly 150 countries from around the world gathered at the United Nations in New York City to demonstrate for the eradication of poverty and violence against women. Six Island women travelled to New York for the march. Women in PEI participated with rural marches on the Confederation Trail, community walks, presentations, dedications of public benches, evenings of words and songs, sweet grass ceremonies, city marches and rallies.

Making History, Building Futures: PEI Women of the 20th Century.

The Advisory Council co-chaired this project with the Interministerial Women's Secretariat. The final product, entitled ***First Hand: Arts, Crafts and Culture Created by PEI Women of the 20th Century*** was launched on January 16, 2001. The modules: basket weaving, literary writing, mat hooking, photography, quilting, and visual arts, celebrate the creative work of women's hands. The "First Hand" modules will be available to the general public through the internet on PEI's InfoPEI Web sit, as well as CD-Rom and a booklet to provide an introduction to the Web resources.

HIV/AIDS and Pregnancy

The Advisory Council participated on th Advisory Committee of this project, sponsored by AIDS PEI. Health Canada funded the project to educate women in PEI about HIV testing if you are pregnant or considering pregnancy. The Advisory Committee assisted the coordinator to develop a program with women from PEI that was successfully piloted across the Island. A second phase of the project included a video tape of the presentation available for use in Doctor's offices, for loan from pharmacies, etc.

Justice Options for Women Who Are Victims of Violence

The Advisory Council sits on the Steering Committee of this project. Its goal is to ensure that justice options do not revictimize women who are victims of violence. Activities included: 1) local workshops to raise awareness of the issue; 2) preparing information for women victims of violence about justice options; 3) preparing information for justice system and restorative justice practitioners about the needs of women victims of violence; and 4) development of a framework for improving justice and restorative justice options for women who are victims of violence.

AIDS PEI Homophobia and Community Mobilization

This project was Island-wide and aimed to engage as many sectors as possible in advancing awareness of citizens and communities about the reality of the gay and lesbian populations. The highlight was a day-long workshop entitled, *A Workshop to Create a Task Force on Homophobia and Crime Prevention*. The Advisory Council was a part of the Steering Committee.

PEI Health Research Program

The Department of Health and Social Services has funding for research projects over the next few years. The Advisory Council sits on the Review Committee to assess proposals received by the Department. Council's input was requested to ensure that the needs of women are being addressed in these proposals that are focusing on the health and well-being of Islanders.

Victim Services Advisory Committee

A representative of the Advisory Council staff was appointed by the Attorney General to sit on the Victim Services Advisory Committee. Functions of the committee can include: reviewing laws, policies and procedures, and recommending changes to benefit victims; and advising the Attorney General on matters of concern to women, as well as research and information sharing.

Diversity in Education Standing Committee

The Advisory Council sits on the Diversity in Education Standing Committee. The mandate of the Committee is to provide recommendations to the Department of Education regarding diversity/equity issues that affect the education system in the areas of curriculum, staff development and student services.

The Council releases regular and special publications and conducts research on issues affecting women's equality.

Activities Update

The Council Newsletter *Activities Update* keeps people informed about Council news and business, current issues important to the status of women, and community notices. *Activities Update* is sent to more than 500 people or groups. During 1999/2000 the newsletter was published three times; and 2000/2001, three times.

Advisory Council Orientation Handout

An orientation sheet was developed to describe the mandate and activities of the Council for public distribution. The publication includes a photograph of the original colour artwork entitled "Sisters Remembered" by Lisa Murphy.

Moving On

Council researched and wrote a booklet for women on what to do if a marriage or partnership break-up occurs. The draft booklet is receiving excellent feedback through outreach and when complete, will be widely distributed.

Baker's Dozen

The year 2000 marked the 25th Anniversary of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women. The Council celebrated this occasion with a publication called "Baker's Dozen." This booklet profiled the 13 women who have served as Chairpersons of the Advisory Council from 1975 to 2000. The booklet was launched on September 25, 2000.

**Regular
Council
publications
include the
Annual Report
and Activities
Update.**

PEI Election Guide

The Advisory Council produced and distributed a Provincial Election Guide for the 2000 election. The guide highlighted the issues, offered some questions and encouraged everyone to participate in the dialogue, understand the issues, and vote for the candidate of their choice. Council requested responses to the questions from the leaders of the three political parties which were released to the Island media.

Federal Election Guide to the Issues 2000

Council released a Federal Election Guide that highlighted the pertinent federal issues facing Island women. The *Guide* also featured some questions to ask local candidates. The issues addressed in the Guide included child care, paid and unpaid work, caregiving, reproductive health, access to justice, and poverty. Also included in the distribution was the *Shocking Pink Paper - Questions to Ask Your Candidates About Safety and Security for Women and Girls*.

PEI Women Lawyers Annual Listing

The Advisory Council released a listing of practicing female lawyers in PEI on October 18, 1999 to observe Person's Day. This date marks the decision of the British Privy Council that women were considered "persons" under Canadian law.

Council Business - Meetings, Consultations & Community Partnerships

Council members and staff attend many meetings and consultations, as individuals or representing the Advisory Council, each year.

Highlights of Meetings, Consultations & Community Partnerships: 1999-2000

- Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women reception hosted by provincial Minister Pat Mella
- Hon. Wes MacAleer, Attorney General to discuss submission calling for legal aid for family law, a family dispute resolution agency and guaranteed child support income
- National meeting of Advisory Councils in Moncton
- Community Promise working group
- PEI Council of the Disabled AGM
- Women's Institute AGM
- Circle of Prevention Project: Networking to Prevent Family Violence in Atlantic Canada
- Diversity in Education Standing Committee
- Eastern School Board bully-prevention program committee
- Well Women Coalition
- Made to Measure, National Symposium on Gender-Based Analysis in Halifax
- Council Roundtable with Minister Mella on Medical Directives Legislation, Well Women Clinics, and Women's Health
- Island Focus video taping of ACSW
- College of Physicians and Surgeons re: input on brochures *Respecting Boundaries* and *The Complaint Process*
- Zonta - "Millennial History Book on Women" Planning Committee
- Community Roundtable on Women's Issues with MP Wayne Easter
- Victim Services Advisory Committee

- Women's World March 2000 Steering Committee
- HIV/AIDS and Pregnancy project Steering Committee
- ALERT PEI's public forum
- Health and Social Services dialogue to improve access to the PEI Family Benefits Plan
- Restorative Justice Options for Women Who are Victims of Violence Project Steering Committee
- Family Violence Prevention Justice Education Workshops by CLIA
- PEI Rape/Sexual Assault Crisis Centre
- UPEI Women's Centre "Voices of Young Women"
- Women and Justice Conference, Gander, Nfld.
- Gender Issues in Restorative Justice Dialogue
- Memorial for Montreal Massacre, UPEI

Highlights of Meetings, Consultations & Community Partnerships: 2000-2001

- Facilitated PEI consultation for hearings in PEI on Custody and Access
- Custody and Access Conference in Vancouver
- Meeting with Bennett Campbell on Justice issues and proposed new provincial family law division
- National Rural Conference in Quebec
- Crime Prevention Conference, UPEI
- National Meeting in Winnipeg of provincial chairs of Advisory Councils
- Opening of the Famous Five exhibit in Charlottetown
- Consultations with Senator Callbeck on issues affecting Island women
- Opening of new location of East Prince Women's Information Centre
- Minister of Community Cultural Affairs, Gail Shea for discussion on proposed amendments to Employment Standards Act
- Women's World March 2000 Steering Committee
- Public forum sponsored by the Maritime Centre for Excellence in Women's Health

- Guest on CBC phone in show on changes to Employment Standards Act
- Homophobia and Crime Prevention project Steering Committee
- N.B. Women and Business Conference: "Trek to Success" Steering Committee
- PEI Public Service Commission meetings on Employment Equity
- Young Women and Healthy Relationships Steering Committee
- PEACEWORKS Project Steering Committee
- HIV/AIDS and Pregnancy project Steering Committee
- Gender-Based Analysis Workshop for Council members
- Justice Options for Women Who are Victims of Violence Steering Committee
- Diversity in Education Standing Committee
- Victim Services Advisory Committee
- Memorial for Montreal Massacre, UPEI
- Meeting with HRDC on employment application processes/barriers
- Health Research Program Review Committee
- Meetings with Minister Jeff Lantz on education and justice issues
- Media Workshop by PEI Literacy Alliance
- Public Transportation Coalition
- Public event for Daphne Dumont for role as Canadian Bar Association President
- Woman & Globalization Workshop
- Installation of Chief Justice Gerard Mitchell

Council Business - Highlights of Issues and Recommendations

Strategic Planning

Council continued a focus on planning to set priorities and focus activities. A review of Advisory Councils across the country assisted Council in recommending a benefit's package for staff. In addition to developing strategic and operational plans, the process helped to build relationships among Council members toward shared goals. The process resulted in a planning and monitoring process, clarified policies, and revised orientation manuals.

Submission to the Provincial Panel for a Review of Maternity and Parental Leave Legislation

The Advisory Council submitted their recommendations in support of the Provincial government amending the Employment Standards act. The Council urged the PEI government to seize the opportunity to amend the Act to enable birth and adoptive parents to maximize the benefits available to them through the Federal Employment Insurance Program for a full year, beginning January 1, 2001. Recommendations also included the call for a top-up of wages during maternity/paternity leave, as PEI is one of the few remaining provincial governments in Canada that do not offer any top-up to their employees during parental leave.

Family Law Issues

The Advisory Council met with Attorney General Wes MacAleer as follow-up to the Council's presentation to the Special Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons on Child Custody and Access. The Advisory Council made some innovative recommendations regarding the establishment of a provincial family dispute resolution agency and immediate temporary maintenance support payment at the point of family breakdown.

The Council recommended the establishment of a provincial *Family Dispute Resolution Agency* to provide assistance to women, men and children upon family unit breakdown. The proposed agency would provide clients with telephone or on-site information, assessment and referrals for legal and non-legal remedies.

The Council also called for *Guaranteed Child Support Income*, proposed as a new legal service concerning support orders immediately following a family split. The temporary, yet immediate, support order from a judge would ensure that a predetermined amount of money per child would be received monthly from the non-custodial parent, while the process of determining a long-term plan for support and custody and access takes place.

The Advisory Council continues to recommend that family law legal aid be provided to Islanders who show a financial need for service.

AUDITOR GENERAL

CHARLOTTETOWN

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

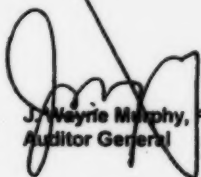
AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the
Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women

I have audited the balance sheet of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women as at March 31, 2000 and the statements of revenues, expenditures and equity and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Council's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. These standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 2000 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with general accepted accounting principles.



J. Weyrie Murphy, FCA
Auditor General

Charlottetown, P.E.I.
June 23, 2000

STATEMENT 1

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

BALANCE SHEET

MARCH 31, 2000

ASSETS

	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Current Assets		
Cash	\$4,872	\$5,683
Accounts receivable	34	43
Prepaid expenses	<u>485</u>	<u>584</u>
	<u>\$5,391</u>	<u>\$6,310</u>

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$5,342	\$5,146
Surplus	<u>49</u>	<u>1,164</u>
	<u>\$5,391</u>	<u>\$6,310</u>

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.)

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Chairperson: Patricia BallenMember: Angie S. Blanchet

STATEMENT 2

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2000

	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Revenues		
Provincial appropriation - Note 2	\$138,200	\$114,500
Program revenues	-	7,862
Miscellaneous revenues	<u>2,852</u>	<u>571</u>
	<u>141,052</u>	<u>122,933</u>
 Expenditures		
Administration	3,725	3,186
Bursary	500	500
Conferences	1,814	1,243
Equipment leases - Notes 1(b) and 3	2,612	2,612
Equipment purchases - Note 1(a)	3,292	2,521
Honoraria	11,490	11,348
Materials and supplies	4,308	2,139
Program expenses	5,508	6,540
Salaries and benefits	106,458	91,361
Travel - In Province	<u>2,460</u>	<u>1,372</u>
	<u>142,167</u>	<u>122,822</u>
 Net Income (Loss) for the year	(1,115)	111
Surplus, beginning of year	<u>1,164</u>	<u>1,053</u>
Surplus, end of year	<u>\$ 49</u>	<u>\$ 1,164</u>

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.)

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

MARCH 31, 2000

	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Cash Flows From Operating Activities		
Cash received from Province of PEI for operations	\$138,200	\$114,500
Cash received from program revenues	-	7,862
Cash received from miscellaneous revenues	2,852	571
Cash paid for salaries and benefits	(106,458)	(91,361)
Cash paid for materials and services	<u>(35,405)</u>	<u>(29,899)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash	(811)	1,673
Cash, beginning of year	<u>5,683</u>	<u>4,010</u>
Cash, end of year	<u>\$ 4,872</u>	<u>\$ 5,683</u>

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.)

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2000

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

These statements were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for non-profit organizations with:

- (a) Capital assets expensed when purchased.
- (b) Leases treated as operating leases and lease costs expensed as they become due.

2. Provincial Appropriation:

The Provincial Appropriation amount of \$138,200 (1999 - \$114,500) includes an operating grant of \$126,700 (1999 - \$100,000) and other provincial grants totalling \$11,500 (1999 - \$14,500).

3. Equipment Lease:

A photocopier is leased until January 31, 2001 and the total lease payments are \$2,612 annually.

AUDITOR GENERAL

CHARLOTTETOWN
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

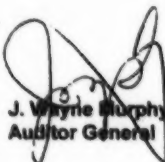
AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the
Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women

I have audited the balance sheet of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women as at March 31, 2001 and the statements of revenues, expenditures and equity and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Council's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. These standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 2001 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian general accepted accounting principles.



J. Wayne Murphy, FCA
Auditor General

Charlottetown, P.E.I.
September 21, 2001

STATEMENT 1

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

BALANCE SHEET

MARCH 31, 2001

ASSETS

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Current Assets		
Cash	\$4,128	\$4,872
Accounts receivable	1,073	34
Prepaid expenses	<u>579</u>	<u>485</u>
	<u>\$5,780</u>	<u>\$5,391</u>

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$5,371	\$5,342
Surplus	<u>409</u>	<u>49</u>
	<u>\$5,780</u>	<u>\$5,391</u>

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.)

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Chairperson: Patricia RoyMember: Margaret Koren

STATEMENT 2

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2001

	2001	2000
Revenues		
Provincial appropriation - Note 2	\$145,800	\$138,200
Miscellaneous revenues	<u>190</u>	<u>2,852</u>
	<u>145,990</u>	<u>141,052</u>
Expenditures		
Administration	4,113	3,725
Bursary	500	500
Conferences	1,973	1,814
Equipment leases - Notes 1(b) and 3	2,615	2,612
Equipment purchases - Note 1(a)	8,484	3,292
Honoraria	11,494	11,490
Materials and supplies	4,910	4,308
Program expenses	7,176	5,508
Salaries and benefits	100,094	106,458
Travel - In Province	<u>4,271</u>	<u>2,460</u>
	<u>145,630</u>	<u>142,167</u>
Net Income (Loss) for the year	360	(1,115)
Surplus, beginning of year	<u>49</u>	<u>1,164</u>
Surplus, end of year	<u>\$ 409</u>	<u>\$ 49</u>

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.)

STATEMENT 3

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

MARCH 31, 2001

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Cash Flows From Operating Activities		
Cash received from Province of PEI for operations	\$145,800	\$138,200
Cash received from miscellaneous revenues	190	2,852
Cash paid for salaries and benefits	(100,094)	(106,458)
Cash paid for materials and services	<u>(46,640)</u>	<u>(35,405)</u>
Net decrease in cash	(744)	(811)
Cash, beginning of year	<u>4,872</u>	<u>5,683</u>
Cash, end of year	<u>\$ 4,128</u>	<u>\$ 4,872</u>

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.)

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2001

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

These statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for Not-For-Profit organizations. Accordingly:

(a) Capital assets are expensed when purchased. The Council spent \$8,484 (2000 - \$3,292) on office and computer equipment during the year.

(b) Leases are treated as operating leases and lease costs are expensed as they become due.

2. Provincial Appropriation:

The Provincial Appropriation amount of \$145,800 (2000 - \$138,200) includes an operating grant of \$144,300 (2000 - \$126,700) and other provincial grants totalling \$1,500 (2000 - \$11,500).

3. Equipment Lease:

A photocopier is leased until July 31, 2006 and the total lease payments are \$2,630 annually.

CHAPTER A-6

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN ACT

1. In this Act

- (a) "Minister" means the Minister responsible for the status of women as designated by the Executive Council;
- (b) "Council" means the Council established under section 2. 1988, c.7, s.1.

2. There is established an Advisory Council on the Status of Women. 1988, c.7, s.2.

3. The Council shall

- (a) develop public awareness of the issues affecting the status of women;
- (b) promote a change in attitudes within the community in order that women may enjoy an equality of opportunity;
- (c) encourage discussion and expression of opinion by Island residents on issues affecting the status of women;
- (d) advise the Minister with respect to such issues as the Minister may refer to the Council for consideration;
- (e) review policies and legislation affecting women and report its findings to the relevant governmental departments or agencies;
- (f) provide assistance to the Minister in promoting changes to ensure the attainment of equality objectives of women; and
- (g) provide assistance, as the Council deems appropriate, to organizations and groups whose objectives promote the equality of women. 1988, c.7, s.3.

4. The Council may

- (a) receive and hear submissions and suggestions from individuals and groups concerning the status of women;
- (b) research matters relating to the status of women and suggest research areas in relation thereto that may be studied by any interested person;
- (c) recommend and participate in programs concerning the status of women;
- (d) recommend legislation, policies and practices to promote equality of opportunity for women and to improve the status of women;
- (e) publish such reports, studies and recommendations as the Council feels advisable; and
- (f) present reports to the Minister for presentation to the Legislative Assembly. 1988, c.7, s.4.

5. (1) The Council shall consist of nine members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

(2) The members of the Council shall be appointed for a term of not less than two and not more than three years.

(3) A member is eligible for reappointment for a second term of not less than one and not more than two years.

- (4) Anyone who has served on the Council for a period of four years or more is ineligible for reappointment.
- (5) Within three months of the expiry of a term of office of a member, the Lieutenant Governor in Council shall appoint or reappoint a member as the case may be. 1988, c.7, s.5.
6. (1) The Council shall hold at least four meetings in each year.
- (2) Meetings of the Council may be held anywhere in the province. 1988, c.7, s.6.
7. (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council shall appoint a chairperson and a vice-chairperson from the members of the Council.
- (2) The chairperson is the chief executive officer of the Council and shall direct the activities of the Council and co-ordinate its work.
- (3) The vice-chairperson shall act where the chairperson is unable to act by reason of absence or inability. 1988, c.7, s.7.
8. Members of the Council shall serve without remuneration other than
- (a) such remuneration for attendance at each meeting of the Council as may be prescribed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council; and
- (b) reimbursement for expenses necessarily incurred by a member in connection with the work of the Council. 1988, c.7, s.8.
9. Each year, on or before September 30, the Council shall submit to the Minister an estimate of the money required for the operation of the Council during the next fiscal year, setting forth the estimated revenue and expenditure in such detail and in such form as the Minister may require. 1988, c.7, s.9.
10. The accounts of the Council shall be audited from time to time by the Auditor General whose report shall be included in the annual report of the Council. 1988, c.7, s.10.
11. (1) The Council shall, within three months after the end of each fiscal year, submit to the Minister an annual report which shall contain
- (a) a report of all meetings conducted by the Council during the year;
- (b) a report of the findings, conclusions and recommendations made by the Council to the Minister during the year.
- (2) The Minister shall, within one month of the receipt of the report, present the report of the Council to the Legislative Assembly if the Assembly is then in session and, if it is not, then within one month after the commencement of the next ensuing session. 1988, c.7, s.11.
12. The Council may employ or engage such persons as it considers necessary to carry out its functions. 1988, c.7, s.12.
13. The Council may make bylaws for its internal management. 1988, c.7, s.13.



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